

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method of decrypting encrypted data, which is encrypted, based on an encryption key, the encrypted content data and operational rule information are supplied to a discriminating part. The operational rule information includes title key and reproduction object inherent information. The title key is uniquely determined in accordance with the content data, and the reproduction object inherent information restricts a reproduction of content data and includes item information for restricting a terminal. The item information is acquired from terminal side, and a reproduction possibility of the encoded content data is judged based on the terminal-side item information and the operational rule information. In a decryption key generation portion, a decryption key is generated from the item information and the title key in accordance with the judgment. In a decryption portion, the encrypted content data is decrypted based on the decryption key information.